Location of New Sugar Factory in Gujarat

1618. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL :

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for changing the location for the establishment of a new sugar factory ;

(b) if so, at which stage the proposal is ying ; and

(c) by when the matter is likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (c) Central Government had received six proposals for change of location of new sugar factories in Gujarat. In five cases, approvals have been granted and necessary amendments have also been made in their Letters of Intent. In respect of the remaining one case, the judgement of Gujarat High Court has been received and is being processed.

Violation of Sugar Release Policy

1619. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether Co-operative Sugar Mills have expressed their concern over continuous violation of Sugar Release Policy by Food Ministry for the past few months;

(b) if so, what are the other demands made by the President of Sugar Mills ;

(c) whether Government have considered all suggestions made in their memorandum ; and

(d) if so, to what extent the doubts are cleared in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the report published in the Hindustan Times dated 5th February, 1994, the following main issues have been raised by the President, National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories Limited :—

(i) Sorting out problems arising out of additional quota being realeased to only two mills.

(ii) apprehending a crisis late this year because of lesser carry forward stocks at the end of the year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Ad hoc releases of free sale sugar are made to sugar mills from time to time to enable them to clear their cane price dues or to help them to ride over their financial difficulties. Accordingly, ad hoc releases were made to the two sugar mills in view of the financial problems being faced by them to enable them to pay their cane price dues promply.

Government is aware of the likely fall in sugar production this season which may lead to inadequate carry over stocks at the end of the season. Efforts are being made to boost sugar production through various measures and further remedial measures, as deemed necessary, would be taken at the appropriate time.

Excessive releases of Sugar to Sugar Mills

1620. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH :

SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that excessive releases coupled with making large additional releases to two sugar mills belonging to the Oswal Group have been made ?

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof and the details of release may be given alongwith the names and location of sugar factories since December, 1993 ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 85 per cent have been released to the two units in utter disregard of the normal practices ; and

(d) if so, the extraordinary reasons, that promopted such releases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI) : (a) to (d) A total quantity of 37.70 lakh tonnes has been released in the current 1993-94 sugar season from October